HE COULD ESCAPE

WATCH KEPT OVER JOHN COLLINS IS PURELY PERFUNCTORY.

CASE DRAGS WEARILY ALONG

COLLINS SEEMS TO BE VERY CONFI-DENT OF ACQUITTAL.

His Sister, Grace Collins, on the Stand-Many Witnesses Testify to John's Good Character and to His Affection for His Father.

TOPEKA, Dec. 19 .- (Special). The local authorities having John Collins in charge during the trial have no fear that he will make any effort to escape. They let him do about as he pleases. When he is brought into the courtroom, he is allowed to wander around wherever he pleases, and after the adjournment of court he moves around almost as freely in the room as any of the spectators. He often walks out into the corridor looking for the deputy sheriff to accompany him to the jail. Sometimes he does not find the deputy, and, after chatting with friends, John will walk back into the courtroom and hunt up the deputy.

He could make his escape easily, if he were so inclined. But his inclination does not run that way. He has a well defined belief that, about Christmas morning, he will walk out of the court house a free man. The chances for his conviction, he believes, are not strong enough to be any inducement whatever for him to escape. One of the deputies who have been in attendance upon the trial was asked to-day if he did not think they were taking long chances in giving John so much free

"We are taking no chance at all." said he. "It is not necessary to guard John. We do it simply to prevent any talk. The fact is, John would not escape if he were turned loose and given twenty-four hours to go on. When we accompany him to and from the jail it is merely a formality. John would turn up just as certain if we were not with

The trial is dragging along wearily. "Good character' witnesses are still being exam-ined. They all tell the same story—that John was a good boy; that he and his father were like two chums; that the relations among the members of the Collins family were very affectionate and close and that John's disposition was such as to make it impossible of belief that he would com-

mit such a fiendish crime. Evidence was also given to-day tending to show that Jesse Harper got the dia-mond stud from his girl, and not from John. Two witnesses swore that Jesse told them that his girl gave it to him. Jesse Harper also got tangled up in his estimony on the second recall to-day. He testified that the revolver which John gave him to pawn was a blue steel barrel gun. Attorney Hayden produced a nickle plated revolver, and asked if that was not the pistol. Instead of correcting his statement that the barrel was of blue steel, Harper declared that the nickle plated revolve was a blue steel revolver, and tried to convince the jury of it, too, to the amazemen

An hour was consumed this afternoon by the defense in reading to the jury that portion of the testimony given by a num-ber of witnesses at the preliminary, which contradicts the testimony given by them at the trial this time. Among other witnesses whose testimony at the two trials varied were: Albert Hartberg, Ed Lange, Cornella Carter, Chief of Police Steele

Jesse Harper and Johnson Jordan, Miss Grace Collins was the principal witness examined to-day. She is a sister of the defendant, and was at home on the morning of the murder. She said that she was absolutely certain that John did not commit the crime, for she heard him not commit the crime, for she heard him jump out of bed as someone rushed by the door of her bedroom. Miss Collins was first questioned about the events of the evening before the murden. She said that she went to her room soon after the evening meal, before her father and mother left the house.

"Was there anyone in the house besides yourself and John when your father and mother left?"

"No. sir."

'No, sir."
"What was John doing?" He was playing on the piano in the par-

'Did you hear your father say anything John as he left?" to John as he left?"
"He started out and then came back, and told John not to leave in the morning until he saw how he was."
"Had John consulted a physician that afternoon?" Yes, sir; he brought some medicine home with him, and took some before supper."
"How long did John stay in the parlor?"

"About fifteen minutes."
"Did he come upstairs then?"
"Yes, sir. He stopped at my room and talked to me a few minutes and then said he was going out on the balcony

ne was going out on the balcony to smoke."

"Did he stop as he came back?"

"He stopped for a few minutes, and remarked that he had been in the smoking car. Then he said good night and went to his room and shut the door."

"Did you retire soon after?"

"Yes, sir, in a few minutes. I first went down staris and secured some fruit and a glass of water, and took my little consin, who had been out with father and mother, upstairs. I may have stopped and said good night at the sitting room."

"When were you awakened?"

"Early in the morning."

"When were you awakened?"
"Early in the morning."
"What was it that awakened you?"
"A loud noise that sounded to me like a run. I was dazed for an instant and then I heard brother call 'What's that noise,' and jump out of bed. Then I heard a rush past my room door going down the hall toward the back of the house."
"Was your door open?"
"Yes, sir, because I always kept it open."
"Could you distinguish footsteps in the noise?"

"Could you distinguish footsteps in the noise."

It seemed to me that some one was rapidly going down the hall, but there was no striking sound of footsteps on the carpet."

Could you say whether the person who made that noise had on shoes?"

I didn't hear that striking noise that shoes would make on the carpet."

"Do you know that it wasn't your brother John who made that noise?"

"I am absolutely certain that it was not."

"State why you are certain?"

"The rush past my door was almost simultaneous with the noise he made jumping out of bed after he had called, "What's that noise." I came out of my room immediately afterward and met John at the edge of the bannister coming out of the room. Then we started downstains and we had gone but a few steps when mamma called."

"What did she say?"

"Come quick, father is shot; go for help, as I remember it."

"Did you go into the room where your father was?"

"Yes, sir; I went in, and because it was so dark I couldn't see I put out my head."

father was?"
"Yes, sir; I went in, and because it was so dark I couldn't see I put out my hand to touch papa. I touched a pool of blood. Then I left the room and started across the street to Mr. Lange's house.
"Coming back from Mr. Lange's did you see John?"

"I saw him crossing the street. He was in his bare feet and had on his coat and irousers."
"Did you see your mother as you came

"Did you see your mother as you came back?"

"She was standing on the porch calling for help. She preceded me into the house and into the room where papa was."
"Did John come back soon?"
"Almost immediately. He came into the room and knelt down by the bed. He was crying, and I remember of him supporting me while I kissed papa several times. That was before he died."
Scott Kelsey, one of the county commissioners, was called by the defense. On direct examination he testified as follows:
"Has there been any contract between the board of county commissioners and Dell Harbaugh by which he was to work in this case."

Not to my knowledge."

"Not to my knowledge."
"Has the matter been taken up at any
of the meetings of the board?"
"Not that I know of."
"There is no record of any proceedings
of such nature before the board?"
"No. sir."
"The board didn't authorize anyone else
to smploy him?"

"The board didn't authorize anyone else to employ him?"
"Not to my knowledge,"
On cross-examination Mr. Kelsey admitted that the employment of Detective Harbaugh was spoken of informally by County

"Papa." said Peter, "did you believe in Kriss Kringle when you was a kid" "Of course I did." "Kide was easy things in your day, wasn't they, dad?"—Philadelphia North American.

he board, that he had stated that Har-augh would require 5; per day and that here was no objection made to the ar-angement proposed by the county after-

rangement proposed by the coars, ney.

T. P. Rodgers, another member of the board, was called after Mr. Keisey was excused. Attorney Godard asked him if the board had employed Detective Harbaugh to work in the case. Before the witness had time to reply Attorney Sattord was on his feet and objected to the question. "May it please the court," said he, "Mr. Harbaugh stated on the witness stand that he was employed by County Attorney Jetmore, and never stated that he was employed by the county commissioners."

was employed by the county commissioners."

"Objection sustained," said Judge Hazen.
Mr. Godard then asked Commissioner
Rodgers if the board had authorized Jetmore to employ Harbaugh, but again Attorney Safford objected. The objection was
again sustained and Mr. Rodgers was exLee Stanford, of Rice county, testified
that he had known J. S. Collins through his
connection with the cride, of Ond Fellows,
and in conversation at a grand lodge
meeting Collins had told him of the attempt made by a colored man to hold him
up. He said Collins told him that the nam
had a knife, but that he got the better of
him and marched him out in the ciectric
light and said to him that if he ever followed him again he would kill him. Sanford said that at a previous grand lodge
meeting Collins had referred to his fact of ord said that at a previous grand lodg neeting Collins had referred to his fear o clored men, and remarked that he wouldn'

Trust any colored man.

Jess Harper was here recalled by the defense, and examined as follows:

"Did you have a conversation with Ernest Bryant and Charles Delahumty on the mortheast corner of Warren and Massachusetts streets in the latter part of April?"

"I talked to them every day."

"I talked to them every day." "Did you pass the two men in compan with two girs and atterward come back and tell them that those were the kind of girs to have to bring around such little es, pointing to a diamond stud in your

"Oh, no. Not me."
"Did you tell them that you were putting them on students and clerks, and would have a new black suit next week?" "No, sir,"
"Did you call one of the girls to one side when they came back a few minutes later, and say, You may be smart, but you want to listen to me about this thing?"

No. sir, not me."

Ernest Bryant, an employe of the Lawrence wire mill, was then called,
"Did you have a conversation with Jess
Harper and Charles Delahunty on the
northeast corner of Warren and Massachuzeits streets one evening in the latter
part of April?"

"Yes, sir."
"Did Jess Harper pass you in company with two colored girls?"
"Yes, sir."

"Yes, sir."
"Did he come back in a few minutes?"
"Yes, sir."
"Did he point to a small stone he wore in his shirt front and say. That's the kind of girls to have to bring diamonds like this around to you?"
"Yes, sir."
"Did he then, referring to the girls, tell you that he was putting them on to students and clerks and that he would have a new black suit the next week?"
"Yes, sir."

"Yes, sir."
"Did Harper call one of them to one side and say. You may be smart, but you want o listen to me about this thing?"
"Yes, sir."

and say, 'You may be smart, but you want to listen to me about this thing?' "Yes, sir."

On cross-examination Attorney Safford elicited the information that Bryant and Harper had trouble in front of a Lawrence billiard hall and Harper struck Bryant. He failed, however, to shake the story told by the witness on direct examination. Charles Delahunty, another employe of the Lawrence wire mill, was called. He corroborated the story told by Bryant.

R. S. Bloss, head timekeeper at the Swift Packing Company plant at St. Joseph, was next called, on request of the prosecution. His testimony was in rebuttal, but was introduced this morning because Mr. Bloss was anxious to get back to St. Joseph. He simply testified that Joe Smothers was in the employ of the company from October 4 to November 18, as he swore on the stand.

The attorneys for the defense did not cross-examine him.

To prove that the story told by Bryant and Delahunty was secured in a perfectly legitimate manner, Mr. Godard was asked to take the stand. Mr. Hayden asked him how the information was obtained, but Attorney Safford objected and was sustained by Judge Hazen. "I think this is immaterial, gentlemen," said he. "No one is claiming that you secured this information in any but a legitimate manner."

Mr. Godard was accordingly discharged. James H. Monroe, city marshal of Lawrence, was called to impeach the testimony of Cornelius Carter. He was asked by Mr. Hayden:

"Had Cornelius Carter charge of any prisoners working in the city to the content of the city marshal of Lawrence was called to impeach the testimony of cornelius Carter. He was asked by Mr. Hayden:

"Had Cornelius Carter charge of any prisoners working in the city pack did not content and cornelius Carter charge of any prisoners working in the city pack did not content and cornelius carter.

Had Cornelius Carter charge prisoners working in the city park dur-ing the year 1898?"
"No. sir; he did not."
"Was he in the employ of the city at all?"

"He might have been employed by the street commissioner."
"Who had charge of the prisoners in the

"Who had charge of the prisoners in the cliy nark?"
"The janitor of the fire department."
No material facts were brought out in the cross-examination.
Dr. A. H. Huntoon followed Monroe. He testified that he had known John Collins from hirth and that his relations toward his father were the most affectionate. He said the relations of the family were most harmonious.

harmonious.

Grant Meade, son of Mrs. Collins by her first husband, testified that he and John used to occupy the same room at the Collins home; in fact, when the house was built that room was laid off for them. Grant was asked when he was married. He said:

"On January % 1886 he had 1886. Grant was asked when he was married. He said:

"On January 28, 1886—no, in 1886; that is not right, it was in 1886. Now let me see; I'm still off. I was married three years ago next month. Figure it out yourself." Grant blushed and so did his wife, who sat near the Collins family. The spectators and John, his mother and Grace all laughed heartily. Mrs. Meade did not relish such a joke as her husband's forgetting the date of such an important event in their lives. After getting the marriage date fixed, Grant continued his testimony. He said John and his father always thought a great deal of each other, and were almost inseparable companions when John was at home.

Mrs. Meade was the next witness and she was asked when she married Grant:
"On January 28, 1886," she declared in a loud, clear tone, and the spectators laughed again.
She said that John and his father were

She said that John and his father were on the most friendly terms and acted as if they were chums.

Dr. Grubbs, Elizabeth Wharry and Representative McKeever all testified to the pleasant relations existing between John and his father.

Miss Lois Tefft, daughter of Dr. Tefft, testified that she was at the Collins home the day prior to the murder. She and Grace were practicing on the plano. The front door came open a couple of times very mysterously. Grace closed it each time. Nothing particular was thought of it at the time. The defense evidently is going on the theory that the murderer of J. S. Collins came to the house at that time and hid himself.

Jesse Harper was then called and became tangled up on the revolver proposition.

Mr. Godard, attorney for the defense. gain. She said that John and his father were

Mr. Godard, attorney for the defense, said after the adjournment of court this evening that his side would finish with its direct evidence to-morrow. The state will take a day with its rebuttal evidence and the defense will wind up its side in another day.

TO ABOLISH AN OFFICE. Attempt Will Be Made to Dispense With Services of Adjutant

General. TOPEKA, Dec. 19.-(Special.) A bill has been prepared and will be introduced at the special session of the legislature to the special session of the legislature to abolish the adjutant general's department and place the duties of that department on the governor's executive cierk. It is contended by those who are pushing the matter that, in time of peace, there is absolutely no reason for maintaining the department: that one man in two weeks' time can do all the work the entire departmental force does in a year. Then, in case of war, it is urged, officers can be detailed from the ranks to muster in volunteers,

Free Delivery at Clinton, Mo. CLINTON, MO., Dec. 19.—(Special.) Post-master Mitchell received the appointment of carriers and orders to start free delivery service to-morrow, from the department at Washington, by telegraph, this afternoon, Eugene P. Brandenburg, Frank P. Daum and Claude C. Cannon were appointed car-riers, and Alexander G. Ferguson, substi-tute.

Abandoned His Bride of a Day. MARSHALL MO. Dec. 19.—(Special.)
Walter L. Campbell, who was, on Friday, at the point of a revolver, forced to marry Miss Zella Thomas, whom he had ruined, has left the country. Campbell was a prominent young farmer, northeast of the city, and had for several years walted upon Miss Thomas.

BUSINESS IN THE PHILIPPINES AL-MOST AT A STANDSTILL.

WANT A CHANGE IN TARIFF

INSURGENTS COLLECT HEAVY DUTY ON ALL SHIPMENTS.

Anti-American Newspaper Suppressed -Spanish Papers Tell Awful Stories of Cruelty of Natives-Embargo Upon Americans Removed.

MANILA, Nov. 12, via SAN FRANCIS-CO, Dec. 19.-What with the uncertainty as to the future disposition of the islands and the state of affairs existing outside of the limits of the city of Manila, which are the bounds of American jurisdiction, business in the Philippines is in almost as bad condition as it was six months ago From May 1 until the surrender of Manila, on August 31 last, the only means of com-munication between this city and the other ports in the Philippines was entirely cut off, since all coasting steamers were under the Spanish flag and had to lie up during

With the arrival of the American army occupation it was hoped that trade would be resumed almost immediately; but In spite of the fact that arrangements have been made between the American and Spanish authorities towards that end, the fact remains that the interisland trade, which in time of peace amounted annually to over \$500,000,000, has dwindled down to ess than one-fifth of its normal volume. The largest import firms have enormou stocks, but can not dispose of them for the reason that communication inland is blocked by the insurgents, and also because buyers are holding off in the belief that the proposed change in the tariff will be to their advantage. Exporters have nothing to export, because the hemp growing provinces are up in arms against the Spaniards, and both sugar and tobacco plantations are idle for the same cause.

A few shipments of hemp have been made, but the insurgents collected heavy duty on it in the Southern provinces and taxed the vessels carrying it tonnage duties in addition thereto. Indeed, it is stated on reliable authority that the rebels are imposing burdens of commerce within the very walls of Manila. For instance, a per capita tax of Manna. For instance, a per capita tix is levied upon every passenger who is foolish enough to accede to the demand, upon the ferry across the bay to Cavite. Then, again, collectors stand at the gates of all the big factories on pay day and muict the employes, according to their salaries, as they leave. Of course, this only affects the Filipinos, but it tends to show that the robels can and are doing result, much as

the Filipinos, but it tends to show that the rebels can and are doing pretty much as they like in spite of the authorities.

So far as their troops are concerned, they are, for the most part, amenable to reason. Some of them, who are quartered in the suburbs, presumed to exercice their authority, but after Aguinaldo had summoned Pio de Pilar and one or two other turbulent spirits to Malolos and kept them under his immediate supervision, there was no further trouble. They still surround the city, but at such a distance as to no longer be a menace to the peace or safety of the suburban residents of Manila.

The Vos Espanalo, a rabid anti-American urban residents of Manila.

The Vos Espanalo, a rabid anti-American paper, has been suppressed by the authorities and its editor arrested for printing libelous articles; the Diario de Manila, which was founded in 1849, has suspended publication, and two others, the Oceania Espana and Comercio, are daily expected to follow suit.

On the other hand butter description.

On the other hand, half a dozen Filipino On the other hand, half a dozen Filipino papers are in circulation and any number of American publications. The Manila Times, an evening daily, was the first newspaper in the field its first issue being on the 12th inst. Two days later, the American, a morning paper which claims to have the only Associated Press news in the East, appeared. Then came Freedom, tri-weekly: Uncle San and several more weeklies, all of which appear to be doing fairly well.

MANUA P. I. Dec. 19—The Spanish

weeklies, all of which appear to be doing fairly well.

MANILA, P. I., Dec. 12.—The Spanish steamer Brutus has arrived here from Boilo with 245 native soldiers and seven priests on board. She reports that fighting occurred at Hollo nightly and that the merchants there are anxiously walting the arrival of Americans to relieve the situation. The streets of Hollo are almost deserted.

serted.

The Spanish officers admit that it is impossible for them to maintain their position at Iloilo unless they are speedily reinforced. They are surrounded by superior forces of insurgents, who are estimated to number 25,000 men. Against them the Spaniards have only 2,500 rifles.

The authorities here have allowed 127 soldiers from the steamer Union to land upon proving residence on the Island of Luzon. The landing of others from the same steamer is still undecided upon.

The United States transport Ohio has safed for Nagasaki, Japan.

The claims so strenuously made by the natives that they are a highly civilized race is not borne out by facts, according to Spanish refugees from the North, who have just reached here. They say that after the surrender of the town of Aparrithe insurgents formed a parade, the central feature of which was a Spanish lieutenant, who was carried along the streets suspended from a bamboo pole, to which his hands and feet were tied, just as hogs are carried here by coolies. On arrival at the plaza the procession halted, the pole was placed upon two forked sticks and a squad of rebels praceeded to terrorize their helpless victim by shooting as close to his head as was possible without wounding him. When the unfortunate man was unconscious with terror the procession moved on again. serted.
The Spanish officers admit that it is im-

Another story is told of a Spanish officer being confined in a cell with his hands tied behind his back and compelled to eat the portions of food allotted to him from the floor of the cell, like a dog. Not satisfied with this, his captors are said to have hooked a rope to his swollen wrists and through a pulley overhead hauled him off his feet until he fainted with the agony. Still another refugee states that because he threw some papers which he did not wish the rebels to have into a cesspool the natives upon hearing it dropped him into the hole and compelled him to recover the papers after which he was paraded through the streets for hours.

The Spanish priests who were captured, fared somewhat better, according to all reports, for the rebels organized them into an extempore brass band to head their processions, and by dint of kicks and blows, compelled their captives to produce plaints of discord, which highly amused the natives. on again.
Another story is told of a Spanish officer

The natives indignantly deny these allegations, and their newspapers retaliate by printing horrible stories of the atrocties practiced by the Spaniards before the surrender of Manila, one of them even publishing the affidavits of the victims.

All sorts of rumors are current here as to what the Filipino republic is doing with reference to the settlement of the Philippine question, but the Filipino newspapers insist that nothing but absolute independence will be accepted by the natives.

Senor Paterno, president of the Philippino assembly, is said to have cabled a long message to Madrid a few days ago to the effect that if Spain would guarannee autonomy and other reform measures, the whole country would support Spanish rule in preference to any other form of foreign intervention.

Aguinglo's official organ, the Republica The natives indignantly deny these allega

whole country would support Spanish rule in preference to any other form of foreign intervention.

Aguinaldo's official organ, the Republica Fillpina, announces that its Paris correspendent, presumably Agonellio, says that the Philippine group has been ceded to the United States, which "will grant independence to the Filipinos after a time, which is to be fixed by protocol, and will not be less than six years, if the Filipinos show that they have a satisfactory faculty of governing themselves."

Aguinaldo has seen fit to remove the embargo upon Americans and has issued an order granting the right to travel through the territory at present held by the revolutionary government to all foreigners, except Spaniards, so long as they are unarmed. No one however, may approach within 200 meters of any forts or intrenchments, or carry a kodak, under penalty of arrest. Any Spaniard who sets foot on Philippine territory, if captured, will be adjudged by milliary law.

The present unpleasant weather is having its effect upon the health of the American troops, hundreds of whom are suffering from cramps and chills occasioned by the dampness of their quarters and exposure. It has rained almost continually for four days and there is every indication of a continuance of wet weather, although the rainy season is supposed to be over.

though the rainy season is supposed to be over.
It was currently reported that at least 20 per cent of the American army of occupation is on the sick list, which would indicate an epidemic, but inquiry at the brigade hospital proved this to be an ex-aggeration, for the total number of pa-tients there was 55, of which only 18 were smallpox, and about 200 fever pa-tients.

An order has been issued compelling medical practitioners to report all cases of smallpex under their notice to the authorities, in order that they may be promptly removed to the pest house, owing to the number of deaths which have occurred in private houses throughout the city.

A LOAN OFFERED.

Proposal to Russia by American Financiers-Decision Is Not

ST. PETERSBURG, Dec. 19.-An official agency here issues the following announce-

The United States charge d'affaires, H H. D. Pierce, has communicated to the min-ister of finance a proposal by Mr. Ivins, representative of a group of financiers, to make a large bon to Russia. The decision of M. De Witte, the finance minister, is not known." NEW YORK, Dec. 19.—Information con

cerning the Russian government loan sought to be placed in this country was given out to-day by J. & W. Seligman & Co. This firm's London representatives cabled to the New York house, asking whether or not they could place \$10,000,000 4 per cent thirty year Russian railway bonds, guaranteed by the Russian government. The matter was considered, and decided in Isaac N. Seligman said to-day:

Isaac N. Seligman said to-day:

"Russian government 4 per cent bonds are selling in this market at between 102 and 104. The bonds of the Russian government are generally taken in this country in exchange for concessions by that government. For instance, the life insurance companies of this city probably own £5,200-600 to £5,000-000, which they have purchased from the Russian government, and hold in pursuance to a contract with the Russian government permitting them to transact a life insurance business in Russia.

"We made a careful inquiry among bankers in this city, and, although we found some bankers prepared to take an interest in the proposed loan, at the same time we did not find sufficient interest taken by others, so we dropped the business.

"We don't think the present moment is opportune for selling Russian bonds in this country. If the favorable balance of trade continues, however, it is not improbable that, within a year or two, these bonds can be placed advantageously in our market."

In regard to the reported application of one of the foreign powers for a loan in the United States, Henry Clews, the banker, said:

"I think that Mr. Eckels, who gave out

United States, fremly Clews, the banker, said:

"I think that Mr. Eckels, who gave out the report, has heard of negotiations begun by a foreign government, but not an European government. I am bound in confidence not to name the government, but I may say that a little more than a month ago I was asked to make an offer as to the terms on which I would negotiate a loan of from \$16,600,000 to \$20,000,000. I made my offer and have not yet received a reply. New York is now the money market of the world."

WASHINGTON, Dec. 19.—There are seers WASHINGTON, Dec. 19.—There are seers who predict Uncle Sam will become the banker for the world. Two Old World governments, Russia and Japan, have turned their faces to the United States in search of loans. Russia, at least, has had agent sound American financiers. This is the first time foreign nations have sought to float great national loans in America, and the wise men think it is the beginning of the new era.

the wise men think it is the beginning of the new era. It may be said on authority that Japan needs the money ostensibly to meet a deficit in her revenues produced by heavy expenditures for land and sea armament, and also to assist her in the establishment of a national industrial bank. That is Japan's official explanation of her needs. In diplomatic circles it is shrewdly suspected that Japan is preparing herself for an ultimate struggle with Russia, and has been hurried by the activity of Russia in borrowing \$5,500,00 to replace her artillery with rapid-fire guns.

borrowing \$5.500,000 to replace her artillery with rapid-fire guns.

It was learned at one of the legations to-day that this loan, recently made in France, is only one-forth of what Russia actually needs, and that Russia has come to this country for assistance because she falled to get all she wished from France. It is presumed that Japan and Russia, between them, want \$400,000,000.

CHICAGO. Dec. 18.—A number of Chicago bankers and financiers have been interviewed in relation to the reported apcago bankers and linanciers have been in-terviewed in relation to the reported ap-plication of one of the European powers for a heavy loan in the United States, Isaac C. Lombard, president of the Amer-ican National bank, said:

I hardly think that this country

lean National bank, said:

"I hardly think that this country will make a loan to Russia, at least not a large one. There is surplus money here, but not enough to warrant a large national foreign loan. America has made many foreign loans, but not to governments, Rates here are about as low as anywhere at present."

Ernest A. Hamill, president of the Corn Exchange National bank, said:
"There is no question but that this country is becoming so rich that its surplus money will seek investment abroad. The balances in its favor are growing larger, and it is accumulating wealth at a rate that is unprecedented. Money, consequently, is easier here than elsewhere. For this reason, though the proposition of making a loan to a foreign government is unprecedented in this country, it seems natural and altogether probable. In case such a loan is made, Chicago is in a position to provide a considerable share of it."

"There is no doubt that if Russia wants a loan this would be the natural place to seek it," said J. B. Forgan, vice president of the First National bank. "The American money market at present is the easiest in the world. The New York banks last seek it, said J. B. Forgan, vice president of the First National hank. "The American money market at present is the easiest in the world. The New York banks last week added \$10,000,000 to their accumulated surplus and the Chicago banks \$5,000,000. Some of the Mexican states are now taking steps to borrow in this country."

John C. Black, president of the Continental National bank, said:

"It is as sure to come as to-morrow that America will become a great money lending nation, like England and the greater nations of the old world. The United States is accumulating wealth twice as fast as any other country. It would occasion no surprise should it be reported that Russia was seeking a loan in England or France, and should not, in the case of this report, that Russia may seek a loan in America."

Drink Killed Him.

MEXICO, MO., Dec. 19.—(Special.) W. E. Grubb, an attorney, of this county, is dead. His wife committed suicide and three of his children met a tragic end, being drowned in a creek. The husband took to drink and it killed him.



THE EXCELLENCE OF SYRUP OF FIGS is due not only to the originality and simplicity of the combination, but also to the care and skill with which it is manufactured by scientific processes known to the California Fig Syrup Co. only, and we wish to impress upon all the importance of purchasing the true and original remedy. As the genuine Syrup of Figs is manufactured by the California Fig Syrup Co. only, a knowledge of that fact will assist one in avoiding the worthless imitations manufactured by other parties. The high standing of the CALI-FORNIA FIG SYRUP Co. with the medical profession, and the satisfaction which the genuine Syrup of Figs has given to millions of families, makes the name of the Company a guaranty of the excellence of its remedy. It is far in advance of all other laxatives, as it acts on the kidneys, liver and bowels without irritating or weakening them, and it does not gripe nor nauseate. In order to get its beneficial effects, please remember the name of the Company -

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LEEDY LIKELY TO SIGN THE BILL HE VETOED LAST YEAR,

HARRIS BILL IN STRONG FAVOR

TOPEKA HOTELS ARE FILLING UP FOR THE EXTRA SESSION.

ancus May Be Held To-night to Consider a Railroad Measure-Hot Fight for Positions in the Senate-Little Rivalry in the House.

TOPEKA, Dec. 19.-(Special.) Governo eedy may have to suffer the humiliation of signing the very railroad bill which h vetoed two years ago, as a result of his action in allowing himself to be worked into calling a special session of the legis lature. A number of Populist senators who are here to-night say that the old o-called Harris bill which the governor vetoed is good enough for them, and that will be passed again, possibly with a few minor amendments. The amendments will be inserted, they say, just to let Leedy down as easy as possible under th circumstances. The humiliation then, they say, will be great enough.

Senator Shaffer, of Bourbon, when asked what sort of a railroad bill would be passed, said. "Practically the same bill that was vetoed." Senator Hanna, of Clay, made about the

same remark. Senator Zimmer, of Wyandotte, said that, as the maximum freight rate bill was now a dead issue, the legislature would have to fall back on a bill in every essential and particular like the governor vetoed. Senator King said: "Senator Harris re-ceived considerable abuse at the time his so-called bill passed, but it has been demenstrated he knew more about the question than all of the maximum raters combined. It will be impossible to pass a bill which differs materially from the old one, that will stand the test of the courts." Senator Lewelling said the legislature could not go much beyond the limit of the present law, or the one passed two years ago, and still pass a constitutional

The railroad question will be discussed at the Populist caucus to-morrow night. Leedy and some of his friends are greatly exercised to-night over the way the senators are talking. They don't know just what should be done, but will ask the legislature to be merciful on the governor. The hotels are beginning to fill up with members of the legislature, lobbyists and hungry Populists, seeking legislative posttions to-night brought in the statesmen. this is their funeral. The leaders expect all of the Populist legislators who signed the pledge to be here to-morrow evening. So ertain are they that all will be in that Ed Hackney, who seems to be the "whole thing" up to date, announced to-night that there would be a caucus to-morrow night to discuss a railroad bill. The plan now is to hold the house and senate organization caucuses Wednesday morning, but the programme may be changed in the morning s that the organization caucuses will be held o-morrow night and the railroad caucus Wednesday morning.

Bailey Waggener rolled in to-night and will maintain headquarters at the Throop during the special season. The Republians are slow in coming in. Only one of the tweive Republican senators, Batty, of Marion has arrived Representative Seaver, of Elisworth, Henley and Barker of Douglas, are the only Republicans o the lower house here so far. If the rest get in to-morrow, there will be a Repub-lican caucus in the evening, but if there is not a fair representation here, then the caucus will not be held until Wednesday

is not a fair representation here, then the caucus will not be held until Wednesday night.

The fight for positions all centers on the senate side. It is the general belief that the ones who get the positions in the senate at the special session will hold them during the regular session. There will not be many applicants for house jobs, as they will last only a few days. Some Populists are certainly lying concerning the fight for secretary of the senate. Two candidates, James Morphy, of Shawnee, and Marlon Watson, of Reno, each claims he has obtained pledges from a majority of the Populist senators for the place. Van Prather says he has nine pledges himself. Either the candidates or the senators are lying; time will soon tell which.

Four candidates or the senators are lying; time will soon tell which.

Four candidates are on the ground, pushing their claims for sergeant-at-arms of the senate. Leroy Dick, of Labette: Dick Chase, of Cowley, and Thomas J. Ryan, of Clay. William Stewart, of Coffey, wants to be journal clerk in the senate. Frank Jacques and Ike Elder, both of Shawnee, are working for the position of doorkeeper of the senate. Candidates for pages are thick. Colonel Randolph, of Emporia, came in this evening with a boy from his town, Charles Keeler, whom he is legging for.

On account of the brief time the house employes will serve, there is no rivalry for the places, and the old organizations will be permitted to stand with but few minor changes.

COMMISSIONERS OUT OF IT. Railroad Board Not Invited to Ald in Preparing a Bill for the Ex-

tra Session. TOPEKA, Dec. 13.-(Special.) It transpires that the Pop administration has not invited the members of the state board of railroad commissioners to assist in the formulation of a railroad bill to be presented to the legislature. It is well known that William Campbell, a member of the board. is one of the best posted men in the state on the railroad question from a Pop stand-point, and that W. P. Dillard, chairman of the board, has made a special study of the rallroad legislation that will stand the test of the courts. Yet neither of these two men has been asked to help get up a bill. The work has been intrusted to a set of railroad question than a hog has of Sunday. The railroad commissioners are not complaining. In fact they are glad they have been ignored. The work of formulating a bill that will stand the test is tedious. The bill to be gotten up for the special session will necessarily have to be drawn up hurriedly, and will, no doubt, contain nany vital defects. Having had nothing to do with it, the railroad commissioners will not be blamed in the future if it is knocked out.

The probable reason why the board has not been consulted in regard to the matter is the position the commissioners have taken on the railroad question. All of them are in favor of the passage of a law only giving the board enlarged powers. The system on which the commissioners now work is regarded as the feasible one. Some of the administration pushers want the railroad commissioners clothed with judicial power, and will insist on the passage of a law of that kind. At present this is the only kind of a bill that is being discussed. The present commissioners say that such a bill would destroy the usefulness of the beard and would secondlist. ness of the board, and would accomplish ne good whatever. They argue that a court o good whatever. They argue that a court of railroad commissioners could not fix rates, for the reason that establishing rates is a legislative function and not a judicial function. Even though a law was passed creating the board into a court and specifically stating that the court should have power to establish rates, the commissioners say it would not hold water, because it would be centralizing two branches of government—judicial and legislative—in one board, and would, therefore, be in violation of the constitution. About the only amendment the board thinks is necessary to the present railroad law is a provision giving the board the power to enforce its orders through mandamus proceedings in the supreme court. preme court.

Outside of the unconstitutionality feature of the bill creating a court of railway commissioners with power to establish

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rates, there is another reason why the board does not think such a law should be passed. The members say it is in violation of one of the tenets of the Populist party. "We have always howled about the courts usurping the legislative authority," said one of the members to-day. "We have condemned the courts universally for making laws and now the party is figuring on passing a law compelling a court to do the very thing that we have denounced for years. Like Breidenthal's scheme to force private bankers to incorporate after the Pops have howled long and loud against corporations, it will make us the laughing stock of the country."

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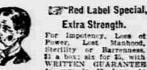
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